

What is claimed is:

1. A tubular sleeve for containing a plant or for covering a pot having an outer peripheral surface, the tubular sleeve comprising:

a lower end, an upper peripheral edge, a sidewall, and an area of excess material comprising a plurality of preformed creases or folds positioned in horizontal and diagonal orientation in the sidewall for allowing expansion of a portion of the sidewall, the tubular sleeve initially having a flattened condition.

2. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 further defined as being sized to substantially cover the outer peripheral surface of the pot.

3. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 further defined as constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of treated or untreated paper, metal foil, polymeric film, non-polymeric film, cardboard, fiber, cloth, burlap, and laminations or combinations thereof.

4. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the preformed creases or folds further comprise pleats, folds with a z-shaped cross section, or accordion-type folds.

5. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the lower end is open.
6. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the lower end is closed.
7. The tubular sleeve of claim 6 wherein the closed lower end has a gusset therein.
8. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 having a bonding material disposed thereon.
9. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the upper peripheral edge has a non-linear pattern.

10. A tubular sleeve for containing a plant or for covering a pot having an outer peripheral surface, the tubular sleeve comprising:

a base portion having a lower end and a sidewall comprising an area of excess material comprising a plurality of preformed creases or folds positioned in horizontal and diagonal orientation; and

a skirt portion extending from the base portion and having an upper peripheral edge having a non-linear shape; and

wherein the tubular sleeve initially has a flattened condition.

11. The tubular sleeve of claim 10 wherein the base portion is further defined as being sized to substantially cover the outer peripheral surface of the pot.

12. The tubular sleeve of claim 10 further defined as constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of treated or untreated paper, metal foil, polymeric film, non-polymeric film, cardboard, fiber, cloth, burlap, and laminations or combinations thereof.

13. The tubular sleeve of claim 10 wherein the one or more preformed creases or folds further comprise pleats, folds with a z-shaped cross section, or accordion-type folds.

14. The tubular sleeve of claim 10 wherein the lower end is open.

15. The tubular sleeve of claim 10 wherein the lower end is closed.

16. The tubular sleeve of claim 15 wherein the closed lower end has a gusset therein.

17. The tubular sleeve of claim 10 having a bonding material disposed thereon.

18. A tubular sleeve for containing a plant or for covering pot having an outer peripheral surface, the tubular sleeve comprising:

a lower portion initially having a flattened condition, a sidewall, a lower end, and an area of excess material comprising a plurality of preformed creases or folds positioned in horizontal and diagonal orientation in the sidewall; and

an upper portion extending from the lower portion and detachable therefrom via a detaching element disposed within the tubular sleeve.

19. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the lower portion comprises a base portion sized to substantially cover the outer peripheral surface of the pot.

20. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the lower portion further comprises a skirt portion having a non-linear upper peripheral edge.

21. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 further defined as constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of treated or untreated paper, metal foil, polymeric film, non-polymeric film, cardboard, fiber, cloth, burlap, and laminations or combinations thereof.

22. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the detaching element is selected from the group consisting of perforations, tear strips and zippers.

23. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the preformed creases or folds further comprise pleats, folds with a z-shaped cross section, or accordion-type folds.

24. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the lower end is open.

25. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the lower end is closed.

26. The tubular sleeve of claim 25 wherein the closed lower end has a gusset therein.

27. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 having a bonding material disposed thereon.

28. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the upper portion is adapted to support the tubular sleeve from a support assembly.

29. A tubular sleeve for containing a plant or for covering a pot having an outer peripheral surface, the tubular sleeve comprising:

a base portion having a lower end and a sidewall, the sidewall comprising an area of excess material comprising a plurality of preformed creases or folds positioned in horizontal and diagonal orientation;

a skirt portion extending from the base portion; and

an upper portion extending from the skirt portion and detachable therefrom via a detaching element disposed within the tubular sleeve.

30. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 wherein the base portion is further defined as being sized to substantially cover the outer peripheral surface of the pot.

31. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 further defined as constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of treated or untreated paper, metal foil, polymeric film, non-polymeric film, cardboard, fiber, cloth, burlap, and laminations or combinations thereof.

32. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 wherein the detaching element is selected from the group consisting of perforations, tear strips and zippers.

33. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 wherein the preformed creases or folds further comprise pleats, folds with a z-shaped cross section, or accordion-type folds.

34. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 wherein the lower end is open.

35. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 wherein the lower end is closed.

36. The tubular sleeve of claim 35 wherein the closed lower end has a gusset therein.

37. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 having a bonding material disposed thereon.

38. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 wherein the detaching element has a non-linear pattern.

39. The tubular sleeve of claim 29 wherein the upper portion is adapted to support the tubular sleeve from a support assembly.